

For Immediate Release
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Award-Winning Parade the Circle Celebration Features Creativity and Community June 9

CLEVELAND — **Parade the Circle Celebration**, winner of this year's Governor's Award for the Arts in Ohio in the category of arts outreach, is about to roll out a vibrant parade, fresh and lively music performances, and dozens of activities for people of all ages, plus strolling artists who will delight audiences with juggling, dance, movement/miming, and magic. All this will take place on **Saturday, June 9, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.** in University Circle — Cleveland's cultural hub. Presented by University Circle Incorporated (UCI) and the Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA), this **free**, daylong event engages thousands of participants and spectators in a display of brilliant color and creative fun. The Parade, sponsored by Metropolitan Bank & Trust, will step off at noon and proceed around Wade Oval. In the Circle Village, more than 30 University Circle organizations will offer plenty of hands-on activities throughout the day, including art projects, music-making, face painting, puppetry, and storytelling. Visitors may also create their very own postcard and send greetings from University Circle via a special Circle Village mailbox.

The Parade

"The Parade is unique to Ohio," enthused Robin VanLear, Parade artistic director and CMA's coordinator of community arts. "This is one of the state's premier cultural events, and we give many thanks to Metropolitan Bank & Trust, The George Gund Foundation, and other funders who continue to give us the support we need."

Parade the Circle is unlike most parades — logos, words, motorized vehicles and live animals (except wheelchairs and assist dogs) are omitted from the procession. Instead, the International Carnival-inspired Parade relies solely on artistic expression and creativity,

focusing on flamboyant, handmade masks and costumes, giant puppets, dancers and stilt dancers, human-powered floats, and music ensembles.

This year's Parade theme is **Fancy Nonsense**. VanLear took inspiration from painter Pablo Picasso's Rose Period works (from 1905) and his depictions of the mysterious and elusive world of gypsies, harlequins, and acrobats. "Those glimpses of wonder that occur on the periphery of our vision, or that come to us in dreams, often tarnish if we try to see or understand them too clearly," she says. "Proof that the truest magic is born within ourselves, a product of our own imagination. What better than 'Fancy Nonsense' to symbolize the magic of dreams?"

More than 18 schools and community groups are first-time Parade participants, including Greater Cleveland locations of the Positive Education Program; Fairwood Elementary School (Berea); Garrett Morgan Middle School (Cleveland); Kenneth Clement Elementary School (Cleveland); Kentucky Elementary School (Cleveland); Midpark High School (Berea); United Church of Christ (Cleveland); and the Willoughby Fine Arts Center.

Kentucky Elementary School, guided by international guest artist Pedro Adorno (Puerto Rico), will create an ocean environment focusing on dolphins. Students on foot will surround eight students on stilts. All will wear dolphin headaddresses and oceanic costumes, creating undulating waves that represent the sea and dolphins at play.

Twelve Cleveland churches, members of the United Church of Christ, will present 30 giant puppets (each 12 feet tall) that reflect the art of indigenous cultures around the world. Prior to the event, church members will paint the masks that adorn the figures and batik their flowing, cotton robes. Fifty people will take part in this Parade ensemble.

Returning Parade artist Mark Jenks (Cleveland) will create the ensemble *Crow*. Loosely inspired by Leonardo da Vinci's flight drawings, it will be composed mainly of painted wood in black, gray, and white, and will feature flying apparatus and winged characters.

Veteran Parade ensemble SAFMOD (Subatomic Frequency Modulation), which combines dance, original music, and visual artistry, will collaborate with the stilting company Swizzlestick Theatre (Toronto) and returning guest artist Michael Lee Poy (Montreal) to create a phoenix — a mythical bird that is reborn out of its own ashes every 100 years — using stilt dancers and clever costuming. The bird will escort its nest, in the shape of a giant jungle gym, as it teems with humanoid figures seeking to steal the elusive egg.

These and other guest artists from around the world will take part in the Parade by creating ensembles, serving as technical specialists, and directing outreach programs with various community organizations throughout Cleveland. In addition to Pedro Adorno and Michael Lee Poy, returning guest artists are Félix Díaz and Rosario Fernández (Mexico), Michael Guy-James (Trinidad), Cathy Vigo (Puerto Rico), and Murphy Winters (Trinidad). Newcomers are Amy Ballestad and Mary Jo Nikolai (Minneapolis), Anne Cubberly and Chris Hausbeck (Hartford), and Humberto Figueroa Torres (Puerto Rico).

Kicking off the Parade procession will be an ensemble of 12 dancers — six females and six males — loosely inspired by Picasso's Rose Period painting *Family of Saltimbanques* (or street acrobats, 1905). Featured will be exotic female characters dressed in long ballet gowns and tutus, while male characters will wear lush iridescent pants

made from Indian sari fabric. All will wear floral headdresses in shades of rose, purple, and gold. They will be accompanied by six costumed stilt dancers with plumed headdresses and a roving band incorporating gypsy-style accordion and brass.

The finale will be a family of six surrealistic masked characters. Short stilts (12 inches) and oversized masks will reinforce the dreamlike illusion of harlequins and gypsy saltimbanques. This group will be accompanied by tumblers from the YARD (Youth at Risk Dancing) at the Cleveland School of the Arts. The tumblers will interact with a variety of contraptions in their routine, including balancing chairs, balls, giant rings, and ramps. They will be escorted by a music ensemble that reprises the circus band from the opening of the Parade.

Note: Public workshops to prepare for **Parade the Circle Celebration** (June 9, 2001) will begin at the Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) April 27, 2001, and continue right up to Parade Day. Workshops will focus on mask making, batik, stilt dancing, and the making of costumes and giant puppets. Participants can create their own ensembles using papier mâché, cloth, and recycled materials. Interested representatives should call CMA's community arts office at (216) 707-2483 for more information.

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Circle Village

Circle Village, composed of more than 30 University Circle organizations, will feature plenty of *new* and exciting hands-on activities for people of all ages. The Cleveland Sight Center will offer *Colorful Scents*, in which participants create a community mural using spray watercolors. Participants will choose their own palettes by using their sense of smell, since it won't be possible to see inside the spray bottles.

Summer Streams is a collaboration between the Cleveland Botanical Garden and Judson Retirement Community. Participants will create colorful streamers, exotic butterflies, and bugs to add to a "vine" that will transform the Botanical Garden's chainlink construction fence into a wall of color and movement.

During *King and Queen for a Day*, presented by the Cleveland Center for Contemporary Art, visitors are invited to create a majestic crown out of colorful poster board, gems, crayon, stickers, and ribbon.

Circle Village spills over onto the front lawn of the Western Reserve Historical Society (10825 East Boulevard) with numerous activities featuring the Society's historic sites and Dunham Tavern Museum's version of an old-fashioned quilting bee — with a new twist. Participants can design their very own quilt square out of wallpaper or fabric and add it to the Parade the Circle Celebration community quilt to be permanently displayed in The Barn at Dunham Tavern Museum.

Greetings from University Circle will be presented by University Circle Incorporated. Anyone can create a free, original postcard and mail it in the special Circle Village mailbox to a friend or family member.

Music and Entertainment

First-time and returning Parade the Circle Celebration acts — including local and regionally acclaimed music ensembles — will perform folk, jazz, and rock. Featured groups will be the Bergmann Brothers (folk); Cats on

Holiday ("swamp pop"); Crossties (folk); Mr. Downchild (blues); Hillbilly Idol (bluegrass, swing, honky-tonk); New Orleans Jazz Ensemble (Dixieland jazz); Doug Wood (folk, guitar); and the Zydeco Dependents (Cajun).

Also new this year are strolling artists who will perform juggling, dance, movement/mime, and magic. John Flower, the "Mad Mountain Juggler," will be part of a roving entertainment line-up that includes members of the YARD (Youth at Risk Dancing) from the Cleveland School of the Arts; Beacon Street (storytelling, mime, puppetry, and music); PUSH Physical Theatre (movement/mime); Fran D'Amico (magic); and Hassan Rogers (storytelling).

Throughout the day, visitors can enjoy scrumptious, mouth-watering treats from some of the area's finest food vendors. Selections will range from Asian and vegetarian specialties to burgers, pizza, ice cream, and cappuccino.

"Each institution works for months prior to Parade the Circle Celebration to create an engaging activity for the public to enjoy," notes David Abbott, President of UCI. "University Circle Incorporated is delighted to coordinate these activities showcasing the Circle. It's a fabulous, fun day."

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Parking and Handicapped Seating

Parking is available for \$7 at these locations: Severance Hall parking garage (enter off East Boulevard), and the surface lot and the parking garage at Ford Drive and Euclid Avenue. Parking on side streets is available throughout the area. The Parade route will be closed to traffic from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Handicapped seating will be available on the front lawn of The Cleveland Institute of Music (11021 East Boulevard).

Note: The CMA lot will be closed all day. The deck will be closed to the public until 1 p.m. Space will be limited in the afternoon.

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Those interested in participating in the Parade should contact the CMA's community arts office at (216) 707-2483. For more information about CMA and its events, call 1-888-CMA-0033 or visit www.clevelandart.org. For questions about the Circle Village, contact UCI at (216) 707-5020.

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Parade the Circle Celebration is presented by the institutions of University Circle. The Parade is produced by the CMA and the Circle Village is coordinated by UCI.

The Parade is sponsored by Metropolitan Bank & Trust with generous support from The George Gund Foundation. Additional support comes from the Ohio Arts Council, Cleveland City Council member Craig E. Willis, and the Cleveland Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Inc. Promotional support is provided by *The Plain Dealer*, 89.7 WKSU, and Mix 106.5.

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FACT SHEET FOR PARADE

- What:** **Parade the Circle Celebration** features an annual community arts parade that relies solely on artistic expression, omitting the use of words, logos, motorized vehicles or live animals (wheelchairs and assist dogs okay). Members of Cleveland-area communities collaborate with Cleveland artists and guest artists from around the world to create their own imaginative floats, costumes, and masks during Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) public workshops or at their own locations. Music and movement are integrated into the ensembles.
- When:** Saturday, June 9, 2001. The Parade begins from the CMA parking lot at noon. The Circle Village festivities take place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wade Oval Green and adjacent lawn areas at The Western Reserve Historical Society (WRHS), The Cleveland Museum of Natural History (CMNH), and CMA.
- Where:** Around University Circle's Wade Oval Green in Cleveland, Ohio.
- Parade Route:** Beginning at noon, the Parade will exit the CMA parking lot and turn right, winding its way counterclockwise around the Oval, passing the Cleveland Botanical Garden, the Cleveland Institute of Music, Western Reserve Historical Society and Crawford Auto-Aviation Museum, and the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Returning to the CMA driveway, the Parade will disperse on the Wade Oval Green.
- Parade Theme:** This year's Parade theme is **Fancy Nonsense**. Artistic director Robin VanLear took inspiration from Pablo Picasso's Rose Period works (from 1905) and his depictions of the mysterious and elusive world of gypsies, harlequins, and acrobats.
- Parade History:** VanLear, after serving as the artistic director for the *Summer Solstice Celebration* in Santa Barbara, California, came to CMA to design and organize the first Parade the Circle Celebration 11 years ago, in 1990. It has grown from 100 participants and 1,000 spectators to an event including more than 1,700 paraders and more than 35,000 spectators.
- Guest Artists:** **Parade the Circle Celebration** will feature five new guest artists who will create Parade ensembles: Amy Ballestad and Mary Jo Nikolai (Minneapolis); Anne Cubberly and Chris Hausbeck (Hartford); and Humberto Figueroa Torres (Puerto

Rico). Returning guest artists are stilt dancer and puppeteer Pedro Adorno (Puerto Rico); visual and performance artists Félix Díaz and Rosario Fernández (Mexico); costume specialist Michael Guy-James (Trinidad); artist and architect Michael Lee Poy (Montreal); stilt dancer and choreographer Cathy Vigo (Puerto Rico); carnival arts specialist Murphy Winters (Trinidad); and stilt dancers Ezra Houser, Rick Simon, and Brad Harley of Toronto, Canada.

- Souvenirs:** New this year will be Parade the Circle Celebration postcards. They will be sold at the event along with this year's commemorative posters and T-shirts.
- Organizers:** Parade the Circle Celebration is presented by the institutions of University Circle. The Parade is produced by the CMA and the Circle Village is coordinated by University Circle Incorporated.
- Sponsors:** The Parade the Circle Celebration is sponsored by Metropolitan Bank & Trust with generous support from The George Gund Foundation. Additional support comes from the Ohio Arts Council, Cleveland City Council member Craig E. Willis, and The Cleveland Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Inc. Promotional support is provided by *The Plain Dealer*, 89.7 WKSU, and Mix 106.5.

Media

Contact: Stacie Leatherman, (216) 707- 2265; leatherm@cma-oh.org.

See enclosed news release, additional fact sheet, artist biographies, and map for more information.
For more information about CMA and its events, call 1-888-CMA-0033 or visit www.clevelandart.org.

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FACT SHEET FOR CIRCLE VILLAGE

What: The Circle Village festivities take place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wade Oval Green as part of **Parade the Circle Celebration**. Circle Village involves more than 30 University Circle organizations, each presenting hands-on activities for people of all ages. Activities reflect the mission of each organization. Locally and regionally acclaimed music ensembles and strolling entertainment will perform throughout the day, and visitors may enjoy a wide selection of foods from dozens of local restaurants and caterers.

When: Saturday, June 9, 2001, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Where: On University Circle's Wade Oval Green in Cleveland, Ohio.

Entertain- ment:

<i>Stage 1</i>	11 a.m.	Hillbilly Idol (blues?)
	1 p.m.	Cats on Holiday (a hybrid of Cajun and rock)
	2 p.m.	New Orleans Jazz Ensemble
	3 p.m.	Zydeco Dependents
<i>Stage 2</i>	11 a.m.	The Bergmann Brothers (folk)
	1 p.m.	Mr. Downchild (blues)
	2 p.m.	Doug Wood (folk, guitar)
	3 p.m.	Crossties (folk)
<i>On the Grass</i>	11 a.m.	Drum Play
	1 p.m.	Mellow Harps (steel drums)
		Dance Theatre Collective
	2 p.m.	Story time with Hassan (African tales)
		Repertory Project (dance)
	3 p.m.	Omowale Afrique and
		Omo Iroko Drum and Dance Society
<i>Strolling Entertainment</i>	11 a.m. to 4 p.m.	PUSH Physical Theatre (movement performance/miming)
	2 to 4 p.m.	The YARD (Youth at Risk Dancing)
	11 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Fran D'Amico, magician
	11 a.m. to 2 p.m.	John Flower, the "Mad Mountain Juggler"
	1 to 4 p.m.	Beacon Street (puppetry, storytelling, music)

Activities:

Stars, Planets, and Beyond

African American Museum

Cleveland Museum of Natural History

Storytelling includes the Underground Railroad's North Star to Freedom and the Dogon people of Mali. Visitors can also make and decorate a miniature paper planetarium and a paper plate astronomy project. See the robot "Soilchurner 2," meteorites, and more.

Picture this Smile!

Case Western Reserve University School of Dentistry

Learn how to brush the teeth of a dinosaur! And join in the fun and prizes as students from the CWRU Dental School capture your smile on camera. Create a special keepsake smile that's fit for the front of your refrigerator. Just grin and say "cheese!"

Summer Streams

Cleveland Botanical Garden

Judson Retirement Community

Create colorful streamers and exotic butterflies and bugs to add to the fantastic, vast, fast growing "vine" transforming the Cleveland Botanical Garden chainlink construction fence into a flowing wall of color and movement.

Shake, Rattle, and Grow!

The Cleveland Institute of Art

The Cleveland Institute of Music

Nature Center at Shaker Lakes

Experience the sounds and artistic beauty of nature. Construct colorful shakers filled with seeds and decorated with fanciful stickers to make music today, and grow sunflowers tomorrow. Play in the Institute of Music's "Tower of Sound" to make your own music.

Silly Spinners

The Children's Museum of Cleveland

It's a new spin on fun! Help celebrate the Children's Museum's new look and new logo by creating whimsical headgear topped with propellers. Personalize yours with stickers and pipe cleaner twists.

King and Queen for a Day

Cleveland Center for Contemporary Art

Create a majestic crown out of colorful poster board, gems, crayon, stickers, and ribbon to become king or queen for a day!

Communication Carnival

Cleveland Hearing and Speech Center

Join in the fun: win a prize at the bean bag toss; color a mouth, an ear, or a hand that's signing your name; or play the Wheel of Communication game.

Clay Works

The Cleveland Museum of Art

Help artist Nancy Prudic turn 1,000 pounds of clay into something elaborate, maybe fancy, but most of all nonsensical.

Musical Discovery: It's Instrumental!

The Cleveland Orchestra

The Cleveland Music School Settlement

What's your favorite instrument? Don't know? Here's a chance to find out. Toot, drum, and bow real instruments under the guidance of members of the Settlement Youth Chorus and the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra.

Colorful Scents

Cleveland Sight Center

Help create a community mural with spray watercolors. But you'll have to be "nosy" and pick a color using your sense of smell, because it won't be possible to see what's in the spray bottles.

Quilting Bee

Dunham Tavern Museum

An old-fashioned quilting bee — on the front lawn of the Western Reserve Historical Society, 10825 East Boulevard — with a new twist! Design your very own quilt square out of wallpaper or fabric and attach it to the Parade the Circle Celebration community quilt to be permanently displayed in The Barn at Dunham Tavern Museum.

Make the Most of Your Senses

The Health Museum of Cleveland

Meet Stufflee, the 9-foot health ambassador, and join in craft activities involving the five senses of touch, smell, taste, hearing, and sight.

Make 'n' Take Monoprints

Metropolitan Bank & Trust

Young Audiences of Greater Cleveland

Experience the art of printmaking. Create a work of art using a variety of shapes, lines and marks; then use it to transfer your design onto paper, making your own unique, vibrant print. Create a colorful frame to preserve and showcase your work.

A Step in the Right Direction

Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine/Cleveland Foot & Ankle Clinic

Test your foot knowledge, then put your best foot forward and learn all about foot care and foot health.

Puppetry and Storytelling

Puppetry Guild of Northeastern Ohio

Western Reserve Association for the Preservation and Perpetuation of Storytelling (WRAPPS)

Be entertained and delighted with wondrous puppetry and storytelling.

Festive Faces

Ronald McDonald House of Cleveland

Put on a funny, fancy face during face painting for children.

Our Eyes on Cleveland

Lake View Cemetery

The Sculpture Center

Help create a Cleveland landmark: fill in the windows of the Terminal Tower or Garfield's Monument with a self-portrait. Then join in a moment of fanfare with bells, whistles, and confetti.

Greetings from University Circle

University Circle Incorporated

Send a message from University Circle. Create your very own postcard and mail it to a friend or family member from the special Circle Village mailbox.

Roaming the Reserve

Western Reserve Historical Society

Craft activities on the front lawn of WRHS (10825 East Boulevard). Make your own stovepipe hat and look like President Garfield (from the James A. Garfield National Historic Site); get up-close and personal with some great cars from the Crawford Auto-Aviation museum; or create your own secret

quilt code for signaling passengers on the Underground Railroad, among other activities. Play with stilts and graces (beribboned hoops that are cast and caught on slender wands) — costumed characters from Hale Farm & Village (Bath) will show you how!

Organizers: Parade the Circle Celebration is presented by the institutions of University Circle. The Parade is produced by the Cleveland Museum of Art and the Circle Village is coordinated by University Circle Incorporated.

Sponsors: Parade the Circle Celebration is sponsored by Metropolitan Bank & Trust with generous support from The George Gund Foundation. Additional support comes from the Ohio Arts Council, Cleveland City Council member Craig E. Willis, and the Cleveland Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Inc. Promotional support is provided by *The Plain Dealer*, 89.7 WKSU, and Mix 106.5.

Media

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See enclosed news release, additional fact sheet, and map for more information.

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ABOUT THE PARADE GUEST ARTISTS (alphabetically)

Pedro Adorno

Pedro Adorno, of Puerto Rico, is a theater director, actor, puppeteer, mask maker, and stilt dancer. Adorno has participated in modern dance and experimental dance, performing under the direction of Petra Bravo. He has toured as an actor and a musician with the *Teatros Ambulantes de Cayey*. The theater group traveled and performed in Martinique and Cuba. Adorno has also organized theater workshops in rural communities with the theater MECATE in Nicaragua. A full-time artist with Vermont's *Bread & Puppet Theater* (1991–1993), he toured South Korea, Columbia, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Italy, Scotland, Canada, and the United States. In 1993, Adorno founded *Agua, Sol y Sereno*, a theater group dedicated to experimental performances, stilt dancing shows with drums, community workshops, and street theater.

Amy Ballestad* and Mary Jo Nikolai*

Amy Ballestad and Mary Jo Nikolai, of Minneapolis, are artists who work with that city's **Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theater** as artists-in-residence and instructors of youth programs. They are both members of BareBones Productions Puppet Collective, whose annual outdoor Harvest/Halloween Pageant has become a Minneapolis fall ritual and features large self-illuminated puppets, pyrotechnics, stilt walking, and music. Ballestad is a founding member of *Chicks on Sticks*, an all female stiltwalking group that creates stilt performances and conducts workshops with community youth programs. Nikolai has worked as a puppeteer/performer and community organizer for Earth Celebrations in New York City.

Félix Díaz and Rosario Fernández

Félix Díaz and Rosario Fernández are visual and performance artists from Mexico. They are accomplished puppeteers and have participated in numerous puppet theater and music workshops. Díaz and Fernández created the puppet theater company *Planeta Azul* and the musical group *Colibri* in the early 1980s. Living and working together for the past 19 years, they have participated in several international puppetry festivals, including the *San Diego International Children's Festival* and *Teatre Ambulant Festival* in Barcelona, Spain. They have been featured artists at the *Puppeteers of America National Festival* in Toledo, Ohio.

Ezra Houser

Ezra Houser, of Toronto, is a pioneering member of *Swizzlestick Theatre*, founded to bring the Afro-Caribbean tradition of the Moko Jumbie stiltwalker/dancer to North America. He is also affiliated with *Shadowlands Theatre*, whose Brad Harley and Rick Simon launched Cleveland's Parade the Circle stilt dancing program eight years ago.

Michael Lee Poy

Michael Lee Poy, of Montreal, is a graduate of the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, New York. Presently enrolled in the graduate program at Yale's School of Architecture, Poy draws artistic inspiration from his Trinidadian heritage to create contemporary African-American/Caribbean art and architecture. His clients have included Richard Dreyfuss and Steven Spielberg. His installation, *Eden* (1999), was featured at an exhibition in the Brooklyn Public Library. Poy's work is featured in a new exhibition on view

through May 30, **Marks of the Soul: Poetics, Philosophies, and Religions — Eight Caribbean Artists**, at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton.

Michael Guy-James

Michael Guy-James, of Trinidad, is a costume designer specializing in large carnival structures. He created the costume prototypes for the opening ceremonies of the 1992 and 1996 Olympic Games. Guy-James has also performed at the *Tobago Heritage Festival* and designed and conceptualized costumes for the *Children's Carnival* (1994–1998). He served as a costume designer for the Lindsay Kempo Company's production of *Peter Pan* in London; Cuban singer Toto La Monposina; the *U.K. Year of the Visual Arts* (1996), and the *Notting Hill Carnival* in London (1996–1997). In 1999, Guy-James was the artistic director for Peter Minshall's carnival band in Port of Spain, Trinidad.

Humberto Figueroa Torres*

Humberto Figueroa Torres, of Puerto Rico, is a professor in the art department at the InterAmerican University of Puerto Rico. He holds an MFA from the Pratt Institute, New York. He has been Director of the Fine Arts Program at the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture (IPRC) and is a highly acclaimed exhibition designer. He has exhibited his own masks and drawings throughout the continental U.S. and the Caribbean.

Cathy Vigo

Cathy Vigo, of Puerto Rico, is a professional dancer, performer, stilt dancer, and actress. Vigo was a member of *Ballet Concerto de Puerto Rico* (1983–1984) and *Ballet de San Juan* (1985–1987). In Puerto Rico, she worked as a ballet teacher in several different academies and seminars, including her own *Ballet Danza* from 1994 to the present. Vigo has also danced in *IV Encounter of Modern Dance* and in many modern and experimental dance productions in Puerto Rico. She has worked with such well-known Puerto Rican choreographers as Gloria Llompart, María Calisaya, Waldo Gonzalez, Awilda Sterling, Oscar Mestey, Petra Bravo, and Rafael Delgado. She was a full-time artist with *Bread & Puppet Theater* in Vermont (1991–1993), touring to South Korea, Colombia, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Italy, Scotland, Canada, and the U.S.

Rudolph "Murphy" Winters

Carnival arts specialist Rudolph "Murphy" Winters is from Trinidad. Murphy has worked on the opening ceremonies of the 1987 Pan Am Games, the 100th Anniversary of Bastille Day in Paris (1990), the opening and closing ceremonies for the 1992 Summer Olympics in Barcelona, and the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta. Winters was also one of six artists who created the *Rockin' in the Streets* parade for the opening of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum.

ABOUT THE PARADE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Robin VanLear

Robin VanLear, of Cleveland Heights, the community arts coordinator of the Cleveland Museum of Art, is the Parade's artistic director. VanLear created the first Parade the Circle in 1990, after serving as artistic director for the *Summer Solstice Celebration* in Santa Barbara, California. In 1984, she received her Master of Fine Arts in Sculpture with an emphasis on performance art and sculpture from the University of California at Santa Barbara. Since then, VanLear has served as an instructor on sculpture techniques at the Cleveland Institute of Art and as a drawing instructor at Santa Barbara City College. She has lectured extensively and has served as artist-in-residence at several schools and art institutions. VanLear has created art performances and installations throughout the Cleveland area. She co-created and directed the *Rockin' in the Streets* parade for the opening of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum; co-designed the set, costumes and props for *An Aesop Odyssey*, presented by the Cleveland Opera on Tour (1997); and co-designed the giant puppets and set for *Peter and the Wolf* (1997) and *Pictures at an Exhibition* (1998) for the Cleveland Orchestra.

* New to Parade the Circle this year.

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